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(72) Inventor: **Mason, Timothy Edward**
Buford, Georgia 30519 (US)

(74) Representative: **Cleary, Fidelma et al**
International IP Department
NCR Limited
206 Marylebone Road
London NW1 6LY (GB)

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(71) Applicant: **NCR International, Inc.**
Dayton, Ohio 45479 (US)

(54) **Apparatus and method for deactivating electronic article surveillance tag in a retail self-checkout terminal**

(57) In a retail self-checkout system, items to be purchased are placed into an itemization area. An item detector detects the presence of the item in the itemization area, and a security checking system determines

whether the item satisfies predetermined security criteria. If the item satisfies the security criteria, a deactivator deactivates a security tag affixed on the item to be purchased.



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 30 7857

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 5 635 906 A (JOSEPH JOSEPH) 3 June 1997 (1997-06-03)	1-4,6, 8-14	G08B13/24
Y	* figures 1,2,4,5 * * column 1, line 60-70 * * column 2, line 1-35,50-70 * * column 3, line 1-15 * * column 4, line 15-20 * * column 5, line 50-60 * * column 6, line 25-65 * ---	5,7	
Y	WO 95 04491 A (HUMBLE DAVID RAYMOND) 16 February 1995 (1995-02-16) * figures 1,2 * * page 1, line 1-20 * * page 11, line 1-70 * * page 15, line 1-10 * * page 16, line 1-30 * ---	5	
Y	US 5 125 465 A (SCHNEIDER HOWARD) 30 June 1992 (1992-06-30) * figure 4 * * column 2, line 45-70 * * column 3, line 1-15 * -----	7	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) G08B H04N G01C G09F A47F G07G
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 5 February 2001	Examiner Coffa, A
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 30 7857

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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